

Message Text

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SUBJ: CONFERENCE ON THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER OPENS

SUMMARY: CONFERENCE ENTITLED "THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER: A BALANCE SHEET OF THE FIRST FOUR YEARS" OPENED AUGUST 7 IN ISTANBUL. FOREIGN MINISTER OKCUN GAVE OPENING SPEECH FOLLOWED BY PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT WHO DWELLED ON THE NECESSITY OF A "JUST" NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER IN VERY BROAD TERMS, BUT FAILED TO COMMIT TURKEY TO ANY SPECIFIC COURSE OF ACTION. SEMINAR IS LARGELY VIEWED EVEN BY ITS ORGANIZERS AS PRIMARILY ACADEMIC EXERCISE, WITH LIMITED PRACTICAL USE FOR TURKS. END SUMMARY.

1. CONFERENCE ON NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER (NIEO) OPENED IN ISTANBUL AUGUST 7 UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTRY AND THE POLITICAL SCIENCE FACULTY OF ANKARA UNIVERSITY (THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S FORMER COLLEAGUES). PARTICIPANTS IN THE CONFERENCE INCLUDE SOME WELL-KNOWN
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PAGE 02 ISTANB 02444 090913Z

INTERNATIONAL FIGURES ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT -- E.G. FORMER DUTCH DEVELOPMENT MINISTER JAN PRONK, NEW UN DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT KENNETH DADZIE, NORWEGIAN MINISTER OF FISHERIES (AND LOS NEGOTIATIONS) EVENSEN, JAMAICAN UN PERMREP DONALD MILLS. EEC COMMISSIONER CHEYSSON AND ALGERIAN FORMIN UNDERSECY JAZAIRY WERE LAST-MINUTE CANCELLATIONS.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER OKCUN AND PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT MADE OPENING STATEMENTS TO THE CONFERENCE (TEXT OF ECEVIT'S SPEECH BEING POUCHED WASHINGTON AND ANKARA). ECEVIT APPEALED FOR A "JUST" INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER AND SAID HIS GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS EFFORTS TO THAT END ON HUMANITARIAN AND POLITICAL GROUNDS. MAJOR PORTION OF ECEVIT'S SPEECH DEALT WITH ANALYSIS OF PROGRESS OF NIEO CONCEPT OVER PAST SEVERAL YEARS. MORE NOTABLE POINTS INCLUDED:

--- OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES HAVE TENDED TO INVEST THEIR NEW INCOME IN "UNPRODUCTIVE FIELDS OR REAL ESTATE" RATHER THAN ASSISTING NEEDY NATIONS IN DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS;

--- WHILE FUNDS ARE PILING UP IN INTERNATIONAL BANKING SYSTEM, VARIOUS COUNTRIES ARE IN DIRE NEEDS OF LOANS (SUCH AS TURKEY);

--- COUNTRIES AND INSTITUTIONS OFFERING LOANS TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OFTEN FORCE THE BORROWERS TO "ACCEPT STAGNATION IN THE NAME OF STABILITY";

--- MULTI-NATIONAL CORPORATIONS HAVE TENDED TO LOCATE THEIR PLANTS IN TOTALITARIAN STATES WHERE WORKERS' RIGHTS ARE NOT AS WELL PROTECTED AS THEY ARE IN DEMOCRACIES;

--- TURKEY PLANS TO COOPERATE MORE CLOSELY WITH THE DEVELOPING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 ISTANB 02444 090913Z

COUNTRIES IN ITS GEOGRAPHICAL AREA;

--- SEVERAL DEVELOPING COUNTRIES MIGHT DO BETTER TO ADOPT A DEVELOPMENT PHILOSOPHY THAT PUTS LESS EMPHASIS ON CONSUMERISM.

BEGIN LOU:

3. ASIDE FROM PROMINENT OUTSIDERS ATTENDING CONFERENCE, TURKISH PARTICIPATION IS RATHER THIN, WITH MOST PARTICIPANTS BELONGING TO ONE OF THE TWO SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS. ISTANBUL-BASED ACADEMICS AND DIPLOMATS DO NOT SEEM TO HAVE BEEN INVITED. EVEN FOR ORGANIZERS, CONFERENCE IS NOT BEING VIEWED AS SOURCE OF INFORMATION FOR TUTURE PATTERN OF DEVELOPMENT FOR TURKEY, BUT MERELY AS A RATHER ACADEMIC EXERCISE.

4. CONFERENCE ALSO HAS VERY STRONG PUBLIC RELATIONS ASPECT. OPENING SESSION ATTENDED BY AT LEAST 15 JOURNALISTS FROM EC COUNTRIES, ALL OF WHOM ARE HERE AT GOT EXPENSE. SOME TOLD CONOFF ATTENDING OPENING SESSION THAT TURKISH INFORMATION MINISTRY HAD ORGANIZED THEIR ATTENDANCE AS DEMONSTRATION OF TURKEY'S INTEREST (ALBEIT A BIT LATE) IN WEIGHTY INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC MATTERS SUCH AS NIEO. SOME JOURNALISTS ALMOST

PROPARED TO VIEW CONFERENCE AS MAINLY TOURISM-PROMOTION
EFFORT BY GOT AIMED AT EC AUDIENCE. END LOU.

5. LOCAL PRESS REACTION TO ECEVIT SPEECH FOCUSED ON HIS GENERAL
REMARKS REGARDING NIEO AS OPPOSED TO HIS LIMITED COMMENTS
ON TURKEY. FOCUS OF PRESS ATTENTION WAS HIS REMARKS ON NON-
PRODUCTIVITY OF OIL-PRODUCING STATES' INCOME AND PLIGHT OF CREDIT-
HUNGRY DEVELOPING STATES.

6. CONSULATE WILL BE FOLLOWING CONFERENCE FOR FURTHER
DEVELOPMENTS.
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